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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OUTSTANDING KIDNEY PATIENTS RECEIVE ANNUAL AWARD

[January 27, 2014 - Phoenix, Arizona] – Five outstanding young kidney patients have been awarded the 2nd annual Paul Silver Tribute Award. This award was created in memory of Paul Silver, an Alport Syndrome patient who received a similar award that had a great impact on his life. The Paul Silver Tribute Award was designed to "pay it forward" and assist young Alport Syndrome patients in achieving their own goals. This is the first award of this kind specifically for Alport patients. The award can be used for a variety of activities to enrich the lives of young patients, including tuition, summer camp, music lessons, or a specific project. Winners were chosen based on several criteria, including the quality of their essay and the purpose and potential impact of the award.

The five Paul Silver Tribute Award recipients are **Robert Davis**, 22, from Pennsylvania; **Austin Litt**, 17, from Florida; **Angelica Orme**, 18, from Oregon; **Adriana Richard**, 11, from Pennsylvania; and **Corey Trowbridge**, 22, from Georgia. Their inspiring essays detail their experiences with Alport Syndrome and can be found on the Alport Syndrome Foundation (ASF) website at www.alportsyndrome.org.

“We are excited to offer the Paul Silver Tribute Award again this year,” said ASF president Sharon Lagas. “It is a wonderful opportunity to help young Alport patients, who are the hardest hit by this disease.”

About Alport Syndrome and the Alport Syndrome Foundation

Alport Syndrome is a hereditary kidney disease that causes a decline in kidney function, hearing loss and vision problems. The disease leads to kidney failure for most boys by the time they reach their 20s. Girls are affected too, with some impacted similarly to boys but many seeing much more mild disease progression. This disease is so devastating because it affects multiple family members and is passed on generation after generation, causing a never-ending cycle. Alport Syndrome is a rare disease for which there is no cure.

The Alport Syndrome Foundation (ASF) is an all-volunteer-led, non-profit organization founded in 2007 by a group of families affected by the disease and guided by a Medical Advisory Committee of renowned Nephrologists. ASF is the largest independent non-profit organization in the United States serving and giving a voice to the Alport Syndrome community. In just six years, the Foundation has grown to become an international voice in outreach, education and research of Alport Syndrome.

For more information, please visit www.alportsyndrome.org.

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